From: DPA EIS Helpdesk

Sent: Friday, August 03, 2001 12:00 PM

To: ALL DPA Statewide Staff

Subject: Important Message Regarding October Benefits

Importance: High

Broadcast to All Staff from Systems Operations, the Food Stamp Unit, the Program and Policy Development Team, and Field Services

DO NOT authorize October Temporary Assistance or Food Stamp benefits until September 1, 2001.

EIS tables must be updated with the new Food Stamp income limits, the FS excess shelter deduction amount, the FS maximum allotments, and the FS/TA regional shelter standards before Food Stamp or Temporary Assistance benefits are authorized for October. Table changes will be made the end of August to be effective September 1, 2001. Authorization of benefits prior to the table updates may result in payment errors.

"Auto-authorization" is being turned off in October for <u>both</u> the Temporary Assistance and Food Stamp programs. <u>All</u> TA and FS cases will need to be worked manually for the benefit month of October.

Intake note: Applicants found ineligible for August benefits should be denied for August and have only the first eligible month, September, authorized. On September 1, 2001, the tables will reflect the new figures needed to accurately determine October benefits.

If you have system related questions, please contact the Help Desk at DPA EIS Helpdesk. For Temporary Assistance questions contact the Policy and Program Development Team at dpapolicy@health.state.ak.us. Questions concerning food stamp policy should be directed to Joan Chase, FS Policy Specialist, at Joan_Chase@health.state.ak.us. Field Processing questions should be routed to Steve Neel@health.state.ak.us.